

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A packaging system comprising:

a transport container having a removable cover which is repeatedly removable and refastenable to the transport container, the transport container ~~being sized to accommodate~~ accommodating a plurality of tubes with each tube carrying an individual premeasured ~~charges~~ charge of gunpowder;

~~each one of the plurality of individual premeasured charges of gunpowder comprising a tubes being which~~ is open at least one end thereof, the open end of ~~[[the]]~~ each tube being sealed with a removable cap once a suitable quantity of ~~[[the]]~~ a loose granular charge of gunpowder is loaded therein to form an individual premeasured charge of gunpowder, and the gunpowder for each of the ~~plurality of~~ individual premeasured charges of gunpowder having a moisture content of less than 5.0% by weight to facilitate reliable ignition of the gunpowder, upon detonation of the firearm, and substantially complete ignition of all of the gunpowder; and

the removable cap, once assembled with the tube, forms an exterior packaging which is at least one of water resistant, water proof, moisture proof, and air tight.

2. (ORIGINAL) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the removable cap is completely removable from the tube.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the removable cap ~~for the tube~~ has a hinge integrally connected with the open end of the tube.

4. (ORIGINAL) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the removable cap has a protruding latch to facilitate an end user gripping and removing the cap from its sealing engagement with the open end of the tube.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein ~~each one of the plurality of tubes the individual premeasured charges of gunpowder~~ carries between 20 to 200 grains by weight of gunpowder ~~by weight~~.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the tube~~ each one of the plurality of tubes has an inside diameter of between about 0.10 inches to about 2.0 inches.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the tube~~ each one of the plurality of tubes has an axial length of between about 0.50 inches to about 7.50 inches.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the removable cap ~~[[is]]~~ includes a pull tab to facilitate which facilitates an end user gripping or removing the cap from its sealing engagement with the open end of the tube. ❖

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the cap is a flip-top closure with a base affixed to the open end of the tube, the flip-top closure has a close position in which the flip-top closure provides a moisture tight seal with the open end of the tube and an open position in which the flip-top closure is pivoted away from the open end of the tube to allow access and pouring of ~~stored~~ the gunpowder loaded therein. ❖

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein each one of the plurality of tubes carries the individual premeasured charge ~~has~~ both gunpowder and a projectile therein. ❖

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the removable cap is a pull tab which has a recess, at a first end thereof, which is sized to mainly fit over and provide a moisture tight seal with the open end of the tube, and an opposite end of the pull tab extends away from the tube and forms a smaller diameter handle to facilitate grasping thereof by an end user so that the pull tab can be readily grasped and removed from its engagement with the open end of the tube to provide access to ~~stored gun powder~~ the gunpowder loaded therein. ❖

12. CANCELED

13. CANCELED

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A transport container having a removable cover which is repeatedly removable and refastenable to the transport container, the transport container ~~being sized to accommodate~~ accommodating a plurality of tubes with each tube carrying an individual premeasured charge ~~charges~~ charge of gunpowder, each one of the plurality of individual premeasured charges of gunpowder comprising a tubes being ~~which is~~ open at least one end thereof, the open end of ~~[[the]]~~ each tube being sealed with a removable cap once a suitable quantity of ~~[[the]]~~ a loose granular charge of gunpowder is loaded therein to form an individual premeasured charge of gunpowder, and the gunpowder, for each individual premeasured charge of gunpowder, having a moisture content of less than 5.0% by weight to facilitate reliable ignition of the ❖

gunpowder, upon detonation of the firearm, and substantially complete ignition of all of the gunpowder;

the removable cap is completely removable from the tube to facilitate an end user removing the cap from its sealing engagement with the open end of the tube;

~~each one of the plurality of tubes the individual premeasured charges of gunpowder~~ carries between 20 to 200 grains by weight of gunpowder by weight; and

~~the tube~~ each one of the plurality of tubes has an inside diameter of between about 0.300 inches to about 0.650 inches and has an axial length of between about 0.50 inches to about 7.50 inches.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 14, wherein the removable cap has a protruding latch ~~to facilitate~~ which facilitates an end user removing the cap from its sealing engagement with the open end of the tube.

16 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 14, wherein the removable cap has a pull tab ~~to facilitate~~ which facilitates an end user gripping or removing the cap from its sealing engagement with the open end of the tube.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 14, wherein each one of the plurality of tubes carries ~~the individual premeasured charge~~ has both gunpowder and a projectile therein.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 14, wherein the cap is a flip-top closure with a base affixed to the open end of the tube, the flip-top closure has a close position in which the flip-top closure provides a moisture tight seal with the open end of the tube and an open position in which the flip-top closure is pivoted away from the open end of the tube to allow access and pouring of ~~stored gunpowder~~ the gunpowder loaded therein.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 14, wherein the removable cap is a pull tab which has a recess, at a first end thereof, which is sized to mainly fit over and provide a moisture tight seal with the open end of the tube, and an opposite end of the pull tab extends away from the tube and forms a smaller diameter handle to facilitate grasping thereof by an end user so that the pull tab

can be readily grasped and removed from its engagement with the open end of the tube to provide access to ~~stored gun powder~~ the gunpowder loaded therein.

20. CANCELED

21. CANCELED

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of packaging gunpowder with a reduced moisture content, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a transport container having a removable cover which is repeatedly removable and refastenable to the transport container, and sizing the transport container to accommodate a plurality of tubes each containing an individual premeasured charge of gunpowder;

~~providing a plurality of individual premeasured charges of gunpowder with each of the plurality of individual premeasured charges of gunpowder comprising a tube which is open~~ forming an open end in at least one end thereof each of the plurality of tubes;

drying ~~[[the]]~~ gunpowder, prior to loading, to have a moisture content of less than 5.0% by weight to facilitate reliable ignition of the gunpowder, upon detonation of ~~[[the]]~~ a firearm, and substantially complete ignition of all of the gunpowder ~~prior to loading~~;

loading the gunpowder<sub>1</sub> with a moisture content of less than 5.0% by weight<sub>1</sub> within the one end of each one of the plurality of ~~[[the]]~~ tubes; ~~[[and]]~~

sealing the open end of ~~[[the]]~~ each tube with a removable cap<sub>1</sub> following loading of a suitable quantity of ~~[[the]]~~ loose granular charge of gunpowder therein<sub>1</sub> to form ~~one of the plurality of an individual premeasured charges; and~~

placing the within the transport container and sealing the transport container with the removable cover.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 22, further comprising the step of removing the removable cover from the transport container;

removing at least one desired individual premeasured charge from the transport container; and

placing the removable cover back on the transport container.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of tubes of ~~the individual premeasured charges~~ is open at both opposed ends and a removable cap seals ~~[[both]]~~ each open ~~[[ends]]~~ end.

25. (NEW) The packaging system according to claim 1, wherein the transport container has a first thread and the removable cover has a mating second thread, and the mating first and second threads facilitate repeated removing and refastening of the removable cover with the transport container.

26. (NEW) The packaging system according to claim 14, wherein the transport container has a first thread and the removable cover has a mating second thread, and the mating first and second threads facilitate repeated removing and refastening of the removable cover with the transport container.